



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

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IGCSE Global Perspectives Report on the trial of paper 3 - December 2008



Introduction

This report provides feedback on the trialling of a specimen question paper for CIE's IGCSE Global Perspectives conducted in December 2008 and January 2009. The aims of the trial were to:

- receive feedback on discrimination and performance of specimen questions
- generate some exemplar responses
- provide some guidance for schools

Six schools and more than 60 candidates participated in the trial. The question paper taken by the candidates was half the length of a "live" question paper and was sat in half the time but was representative of one full section of a live paper. The trial question paper and mark scheme can be found in Appendix A.

The trial has been an extremely useful exercise for the senior examining team and CIE would like to thank the schools, teachers and pupils who participated.

Overall, the performance was very promising, indicating able, thoughtful and well-taught candidates who were really engaging with the issues in Global Perspectives. Candidates were generally well able to understand and work with the information in the documents, and developing their ability to evaluate it. There was clear evidence that many candidates were thinking for themselves, and they were beginning to organise their own reasoning in a rationally persuasive way.

Question 1

This question is aimed at Assessment Objective B7, 'Identify key elements from a complex question or situation from an area of study, including grounds for judgement, with a view to forming a perspective of their own.'

This question therefore requires candidates to find information from the sources. Candidates answered this question very well, with the exception of a very small minority who appeared to lack the language or reading skill to access the information in the sources. There were no issues which merited prolonged discussion in this report.

The only issue worth commenting on was candidates who wrote far more than was necessary in part f). Although they would not lose marks for doing this, they may find that they run out of time later, which could lead to them not finishing the paper and therefore not gaining as high a mark as possible.

Question 2

This question is aimed at Assessment Objective B4, 'Formulate critical and creative questions (i.e. questioning meanings, knowledge claims, means/practices, ends/values, likely and possible consequences, alternative perspectives etc.) in response to a variety of stimuli.'

The question therefore requires candidates to think about the nature and quality of the information and reasoning in the source documents. Candidates were very good at thinking

about the nature of the information, and most of them accurately identified facts, opinion and predictions in part b). Parts a) and c) addressed the quality of the reasoning, and discriminated strongly between candidates who really answered the questions and showed the necessary evaluative skills, and those who simply repeated or disagreed with the stimulus texts.

2 (a) (i) 'How likely is it that people will find it difficult to change their diets?'

This question is focused on questioning meanings and likely/possible consequences and requires that candidates consider the degree of likeliness of Dr Z's prediction. Candidates need to consider whether Dr Z's knowledge claim, 'people will find it difficult to change their diets,' is likely to be the case in the real world. Candidates would normally need to bring in their own understanding to help them evaluate how likely a consequence or prediction is rather than just repeating parts of the original text, or they would need to clearly say why parts of the original text show (or do not show) that a claim is likely (or not).

Sample candidate response

It is hard to a certain extent, because if media can interfere in peoples diets by showing junk food as normal, it can also show a good and healthy diet too. It also depends on people's will to change.

This answer clearly assesses the likeliness of Dr Z's prediction, 'It is hard to a certain extent,' and explains why the candidate thinks this, using and manipulating the information in the text to evaluate the claim and adding her own idea. This idea is undeveloped but would explain variations in how hard individuals would find it to change their diets. **2 marks.**

Sample candidate response

Please find it difficult to change their diets because they have got adapted to the junk food they eat. They are more tempted to eat junk food than a nutritional diet.

This answer, by contrast, explains why people find it hard to change their diets with a paraphrase of the stimulus material. The candidate needed to consider how likely is it that people will find it difficult to change their diets. So, for example, the candidate could have shown that, '*It is very likely*, because we see lots of people who do find it hard.' The candidate's last point could have been developed so that it was evaluative or explanatory, which would have moved it beyond a restatement of the text, 'People are more tempted by junk food than a nutritional diet *because it tastes better.*' A really strong answer would have continued, '*and people want to eat tasty food more than they want to eat lettuce.*' **1 mark.**

2 (a) (ii) 'Does Dr Z give a strong explanation of why people might find it difficult to change their diets?'

This part question also considers meanings, knowledge claims and likely and possible consequences. In this case, the focus is on whether Dr Z has adequately justified his knowledge claim. Has he really *explained*? Or does his explanation fail to convince for some reason?

Sample candidate response

Yes he does. I say this because people really do see junk food as normal and eat very regularly as a convenient snack. And companies advertise it so much people are very familiar with it and eat it a lot. And people would not like to make any effort to change their lifestyles so his argument is valid.

The candidate answers the question, 'Yes he does,' and then goes on to justify this view with an evaluation of the explanation, based on how the explanation matches experience of real life. The candidate goes beyond just repeating Dr Z's explanation, showing a way in which junk food has become normal, 'and eat very regularly as a convenient snack.' Finally, the candidate considers an additional idea and relates it to the strength of Dr Z's explanation that 'people would not like to make any effort to change their lifestyles so his argument is valid.' The candidate here has picked up on an idea that is implicit in Dr Z's argument but not actually stated. **3 marks.**

Sample candidate response

Yes. But he could also mention that its not always junk food that spoils people's diet. It could also be due to mental stress that people eat a lot. Due to variety of tempting junk food that has been brought about and more over the promotion that tempts people the most.

This candidate answers the question, 'Yes,' but does not evaluate how the explanation given is strong. She then talks about some other factors that could make it hard for people to change their diets, which are plausible, but does not link this fully to Dr Z's explanation. To improve, this candidate would need to show why she thinks Dr Z's explanation is strong, perhaps by saying, 'Yes, because people really do eat a lot of junk food such as burgers.' **2 marks.**

Sample candidate response

*No, it wasn't strong enough. He could have explained it better with examples of companies that do these advertising promotions.
He didn't mention why junk food is seen as normal.
It is not very clear and he does not support his argument with a good explanation.*

This candidate answers the question, 'No it wasn't strong enough.' The first part of the justification was quite weak, but was attempting an evaluation. The reference to junk food was stronger, and was understood to mean that , saying that junk food has become part of culture is essentially a restatement of saying that it is normal. Because of the focus on answering whether the explanation was strong enough and the attempt at evaluation, this gained **2 marks.**

Sample candidate response

People are saying these raising levels of obesity are due to the government and people also said that the food was now available. Also junk food companies are advertising and promoting these product extremely well which encourage them to buy. Dr Z also says that junk food is considered normal and seen normal, this could be an another factor why people might tend it to change their diet.

This candidate does not answer the question about whether Dr Z's explanation is strong. The first point about blaming obesity on the government is the opposite of what the stimulus material says. However, the attempt to use other parts of the stimulus material to put Dr Z's explanation into context and evaluate its plausibility is reasonable. After this, the candidate essentially repeats Dr Z's explanation and says that it is true. The candidate could improve this work by saying *why* advertising encourages people to buy or *why* junk food being seen as normal might make it hard to change your diet. **1 mark.**

Sample candidate response

It is and it isn't a good explanation but I think he is going in the right direction with what he said.

This candidate might have approached some kind of understanding, but has not communicated this understanding to the examiner. This answer could apply to any explanation and is not necessarily a response to this question or this explanation. The candidate needs to say *why* it is a good explanation, *in what respect* it is not a good explanation, and *why* he thinks the explanation is going in the right direction. He needs to refer to the explanation in the stimulus material. **0 marks.**

2 b) was well done and raised no issues worthy of lengthy discussion.

2 c) In Source 4 Councillor B argues that the Health Minister 'should make this (fight against obesity) a priority for the country's health. The future of our nation depends on it.' How convincing is Councillor B's argument?

This part of the question is focussed on Assessment Objective B4. Candidates should question the quality of the reasoning. Is it *rationally* convincing?

- Candidates should question the meanings of claims and whether one claim means that we should accept another. Specifically, does this reasoning really mean that the minister should make obesity a national priority? Is it shown that the future of our nation depends on changing our diet and activity levels?
- Candidates should question knowledge claims. Is the evidence reliable? Is the doctor friend a good source of knowledge? What about 'stories I have heard'?
- Candidates should question any values expressed or claims which include value judgements. For example, it is implicit in Councillor B's argument that it is a very *bad* thing that children as young as seven are unable to run around. Does this matter? Does our nation need children to develop into fit adults or is it ok to be unfit if your contribution to the nation will be as an IT specialist?

- Candidates should consider whether any consequences or predictions are likely. For example, Councillor B implies that the consequences of us being overweight and unfit are quite serious, as 'the nation depends on' making obesity and lack of exercise a priority for the nation's health. Will the consequences really be that serious? Or is Councillor B exaggerating?
- Candidates should consider alternative perspectives. For example, they should consider that there may be other health issues which are more serious or more deadly which need to be a priority for the nation. There may be a greater need to get vaccination programmes implemented, or to teach people how to avoid contracting HIV.

It would clearly unreasonable for candidates to do all of this within a 6 mark question. But these are the sorts of questions that candidates should pose and try to answer when they are evaluating how rationally convincing an argument is. Note that candidates should avoid writing their answers as a series of questions. The questions above are intended as prompts to stimulate evaluative answers.

In live question papers there are likely to be bullet points to guide candidates' answers in questions about how convincing an argument is. These may refer to 'claims' which would cover meanings, knowledge claims and value claims. They may refer to 'likely and possible consequences,' or to 'alternative perspectives.' Candidates will need to ensure that they use the bullet points to inform and structure their responses.

In the Trial Paper, candidates generally talked about whether they agreed or disagreed with Councillor B's opinion. Very few candidates successfully evaluated the quality of the reasoning in Councillor B's letter, or raised critical or creative questions about this reasoning. This seems to be an area for most centres to focus on.

Sample candidate response

Councillor B's argument is quite convincing as she brings about points of concern. For example she says people who are obese are facing quite a many problems like diabetes, shortening of breath, heart risks. She also takes children as a concern by mentioning that many children are overweight because of poor diet of sweets, soft drinks etc. She mentions that children do not have a normal and healthy child life and get too tired when playing a short game. PE activities in school she says holds no good. Adults do not have a healthy diet and most of all do not exercise she mentions. She also says that of all this taken in consideration the future wont be affected.

This candidate gives an opinion, and paraphrases Councillor B's argument. This does not really answer the question. None of the information is used to show that Councillor's B's argument is quite convincing. The candidate could improve by showing why the things that Councillor B says are 'points of concern,' and considering the claims she makes and the likely and possible consequences. **Level 1: 1 mark.**

Sample candidate response

His argument was very convincing by putting across his thoughts and worries on the subject of, the country's health. Although he hasn't encountered this problem himself he has heard and gathered information from a local surgery. His only fault in my opinion is he hasn't related it's importance to any other national problems and how it should be more recognised.

The candidate attempts to answer the question, but seems to have a weak understanding of what makes an argument convincing. There is a weak attempt to consider the source of the information. The candidate recognises that this is not first hand information, but does not say what this does to the quality of the argument. There is a reference to a 'local surgery,' which is again unused. The candidate should use these points to evaluate Councillor B's argument. For example, 'he has heard and gathered information from a local surgery, *which would be quite a good source of information because doctors have contact with ill people.*' The candidate's last point, which is her most incisive point, is a weakly expressed understanding that Councillor B hasn't shown that obesity should be a priority over other national issues. This is, however, undeveloped and a little unclear. The candidate could have improved here by saying, 'He hasn't related its importance to any other national problems *such as HIV and how obesity should be a priority because it is more serious.*' Borderline Level 1/Level 2. Agreed by examiners that it would need a little more development to get into Level 2. **Level 1: 2 marks.**

Sample candidate response

It is very convincing because if the Health Minister says or does nothing about the obese people a lot of them will die and may be some of them were important people in the country they were adding very good information or knowledge in the country and they die or get rigorously sick the economy as a whole will also be affected. The obese kids in the economy might just be the future engineers, ministers of the country and if they don't change their ways their future will be greatly jeopardised. The only way in which they can change their ways is by enforcing that the children eat healthy food. If a lot of people are obese in an economy it will strain the public health's money because they are sickly and they will hate to go to the hospital frequently.

The candidate has answered the question and made some reasonable attempts to focus on the likeliness of the consequences suggested by Councillor B. However, the candidate overstates and exaggerates. There is nothing about the Councillor's knowledge claims or whether the Councillor's reasoning means that this issue should be a priority. The candidate could improve by addressing these other issues. **Level 1: 2 marks.**

Sample candidate response

Councillor B's argument is convincing. This is because more and more people are becoming obese so more of the cases of health problems are to do with obesity. This makes it a priority because if dealt with there would be less problems. Also if prevention was concentrated upon then less would be spent on preventable illnesses like obesity. Also Councillor B is right about the future depending on it because it is now children who are at threat of dying premature deaths and since the children are the future of the country this makes sense. Also with more people being obese they may develop a gene which will be passed on to the next generation causing more obesity. And obese people are less likely to be productive in a nation or may die very early so development in the nation in economic activities or sports will be reduced affecting the nation's future.

This candidate has assessed some of the Councillor's knowledge claims and has evaluated the likelihood of possible consequences. This is an important part of evaluating how rationally convincing Councillor B's argument is. However, to a certain extent, the candidate has provided the reasoning that would have made Councillor B's argument strong rather than evaluating whether Councillor B's argument is strong/convincing. This candidate is clearly able to access the highest marks, but has not done so on this occasion. The candidate could improve by saying, 'Councillor B is right about the "future depending on it" because she refers to children who are at risk of premature death and children are the future of our country. However, she does not show us convincingly that the "future depends on it" because she does not give reasons. She does not say that obese people are more likely to die very early so development in the nation in economic activities or sports will be reduced affecting the nation's future. So the reader has to do this work for themselves. Councillor B only shows that there are many problems with obesity.' **Level 2: 4 marks.**

Sample candidate response

He is somehow convincing, but to a certain point it sounds to me like a threat, also he is not giving me enough arguments (or at least not large enough) for making it a priority or to be the factor for our nation's future. He speaks at his level (local), what he is seeing locally, I'm not saying that it has no importance, just that he is not convincing me of making it NATIONAL, what if there are other public health priorities?, he is also just showing me the issue (with a lack of data) and threatening me that the future of a whole country depends now on whether I listen to his complaint or not.

This candidate answers the question and focuses on the quality of Councillor B's argument. There is a focus on key points and a subtlety of evaluation which is very promising. The examiner, however, needs to fill in some of the gaps for the candidate. To improve, the candidate should make more specific reference to the text, and justify some points more fully. For example, 'he is not giving me enough arguments (or at least not large enough) for making it a priority as there may be other issues which are more important.' The candidate could have questioned the Councillor's knowledge claims, for example, 'he is also just showing me the issue. There is a lack of data – he refers to 'stories I have heard' which is not convincing evidence. The doctor friend might be more reliable, but this is still anecdotal evidence not proper data.' **Level 3: 5 marks.**

Question 3

As Minister for Health what further information would you find useful to help you reduce the numbers of obese people in your country?

This question is aimed at Assessment Objective B5, 'Propose lines of reasoning that go beyond immediate questions such as where, when and what, to deeper questions such as how, why and what if.'

Candidates need to show that they can think about the sort of information that would be useful in a given situation, and think about how they might use it to help them make a decision in a particular context.

Candidates should avoid modelling their answers directly on the example given. For instance, if the example says, 'I need to know how many trained dieticians we have ... training more dieticians may help,' it is not beneficial for candidates to write, 'I need to know how many trained nutritionists we have ... training more nutritionists may help.' This is simply too close to the example given for it to be regarded as the candidate's own work. The examples are given to help candidates understand what the task involves while the exam is new and unfamiliar. Efforts are made to ensure that the example given is not likely to disadvantage candidates by using the most obvious ideas.

'What I need to know' must be directly relevant to the problem or issue under consideration.

'Where I will find this information': this must go beyond a stock, pre-learned phrase that could apply in any circumstance. 'In the internet,' or 'in a survey' are too vague and general to attract marks.

'How this information will help me make a decision': the candidate must think through how this information could be useful.

Sample candidate response

What I need to know... *the causes for obesity*

Where I will find this information ...*making a survey or the actual records in hospitals*

How this information will help me make a decision... *to know which are the main causes for it in order to know how to prevent this from getting larger and therefore take actions.*

The causes of obesity were felt to be useful in deciding how to reduce the numbers of obese people. **1 mark.**

Making a survey was felt to be too general. The actual records in hospitals would not show the causes of obesity, just how many obese people had been seen and what was wrong with them. **0 marks.**

Knowing the causes will help us to prevent this. Here the candidate is approaching a useful idea but it is too general, and could have been written about any issue. To improve, the candidate should refer to the specific issue. For example, '*if we know the causes of obesity we may be able to prevent it. For example, if we find out that stress is an important cause of obesity, we could treat stress rather than adding to people's stress by telling them what not to eat.*'

Sample candidate response

What I need to know...*If food companies clearly show nutritional contents of food*

Where I will find this information...*Food companies' files or packaging*

How this information will help me make a decision *If food companies do not show nutritional information and people are unaware of what's inside food they eat, then passing laws enforcing clear marking of nutritional information may help.*

This is a very strong answer. **Full marks.**

Question 4

In your role as Health Minister, you have decided to make health and fitness programmes compulsory for all people. Write a short speech which should:

- **explain why you have reached the decision that you made**
- **show that you have considered different points of view**
- **explain why you disagreed with some of these points of view**

This question addresses Assessment Objective B6, 'develop lines of reasoning, in order to provide an explanation or justify a point.'

This question strongly discriminated between candidates. Centres should encourage candidates to use the bullet points to guide them. It is likely that they will always need to support their own point of view, consider relevant alternative perspectives and explain why they disagreed with them in a way that actually answers the points made.

All centres would benefit from encouraging candidates to structure their answers using paragraphs.

Sample candidate response

With the authority I have I have decided that all people should undertake in a weekly fitness of program of not less four hours a week. Some people may not be very pleased but it has become a necessity. This is because more and more of our citizens are becoming overweight and obese. They aren't eating properly and are not getting enough exercise. Even their children are obese. This is bad for our society and there is a danger of passing this on to latter generations, which will be equally bad for our society's future. There have been protestations and arguments such as there being no need to force healthy people to do this program or there not being enough time in a busy week for it or just even people not being forced to do things they don't want to. Some of these are valid arguments but more so are the arguments of health proffesionals and concerned members of our society. In any case I believe anyone can find time for a little exercise, I can. Also healthy people should have no problems exercising. And for those who don't want to be forced I believe undertaking this activity will bring our community closer together so please don't be spoilsports. In closing I would like to say I look forward to seeing you all at the gum!

This candidate provided strong reasoning, but could have improved by dealing with fewer issues in more depth. For example, 'Even their children are becoming obese *because they copy their parents' bad habits* and this is bad for our society *because children need to eat healthily and run around in order to grow into healthy adults who can contribute to the nation.*' The candidate considers relevant alternative perspectives but does not leave themselves enough time to properly answer the points they raise. One of the most significant alternative perspectives raised is, 'just even people not being forced to do things they don't want to do.' This isn't properly answered, and it would need a justification. The candidate says, 'these are valid arguments but more so are the arguments of health professionals.' Why? How do arguments about our health outweigh our freedom to do as we choose even if that is harmful? The candidate could have improved his answer by saying, 'these are valid arguments, but *people's free choices are harming their children and the nation, so we need to help them to make healthier choices. In any case, perhaps they will soon come to enjoy an active lifestyle. One further benefit for them could be that undertaking this activity will bring our community closer together.*' Overall, however, a very strong answer. **Level 3: 14 marks.**

Sample candidate response

As the Health Minister of one country I make health and fitness programmes compulsory for all people because of the concern of obesity which is leading to various health problems and high rate of health risks.

Health is not just the absence of a disease but a complete state of physical, mental and social wellbeing. If you look good you feel good!

I have considered different points of view regarding the production of junk food but I disagree with this because people should be more responsible knowing what is the right intake of food for them and what are their boundaries.

I have also reached this decision because young children starting the age of 7 are also suffering from obesity.

This program will deal which a nutritional balanced diet for people which gives them their required vitamins and minerals for their day to day life.

This candidate has attempted to explain her decision. She has explained that it is because of obesity, and indicated some of the problems related to obesity. This is a strength in her work. The candidate could have improved by explaining in a little more depth and suggesting how a health and fitness programme could help. She has attempted to define health, which is good, but has not used this definition at all. She could have improved her reasoning by using this definition, for example, 'Health is not just the absence of a disease, but a complete state of physical, mental and social well-being. *If we help people to enjoy an active life and healthy diet in company with others, we hope that they will become mentally as well as physically healthier.*' The candidate has attempted to consider an alternative perspective. She needed to clarify exactly what she meant by 'regarding the production of junk food.' It is not clear whether she is thinking of banning the production of junk food, or perhaps regulating it. She has given a strong response, 'people should be responsible for knowing ... their own boundaries.' Unfortunately, this would also argue against compulsory health and fitness programmes for all people, so the candidate has effectively knocked down her own argument. This is more persuasive than the reasons she gives for the programme. Overall, this is a reasonable answer. **Level 2: 10 marks.**

Sample candidate response

I have decided to make health and fitness programmes compulsory for all people whether overweight or underweight or whether obese or normal because every year the percentage of obese people in the economy are increasing every year. So I have decided that everyone should join these programmes because research tells us that 50% of all those who are obese or extremely overweight were once under weight or normal weighted so we want those who are obese to be healthier and loose some few pounds and those who are normal weighted to maintain and not gain any weight. I have considered that some people may find it unreasonable to exercise and eat healthy because they are not overweight or obese but at the same time it is at the benefit of those people because they will get to live even a more healthier life and they stay fit which enables them to live longer.

The reasoning the candidate gives for his decision is a little loose and insubstantial. They could improve by explaining how obesity is damaging to the individual and the nation. On the other hand, the candidate has considered a relevant alternative perspective and shown to some extent why he has not accepted this. **Level 2: 8 marks.**

Sample candidate response

Good morning, I as the Health minister of our country have decided to make health and fitness programmes compulsory. I have reached this decision because according to the data obtained this is becoming a larger issue we definitely have to attend, it is an issue that is affecting our children and a very big range of ages, also it is nowadays a worlwise problem and by this decision I am making sure that everyone would reicive attention and care. I have considered many different points of view in order to reach my final decision; even though I disagreed with some of them because they went too far from what unfortunately our country can provide, I still took them in account. This decision is intended to be for the best to stop the obesity problem from growing larger and larger, to protect and prevent our people; I hope for the best with this new decision I have made in the name of our country, because don't want this to become our number one public health problem but to increase the life expectancy of our people, to stop this using the tools we have in our hands now and to solve it.

This candidate has stated the problem and that it is a worldwide problem. She has not, however, really shown why it is a problem or how a health and fitness problem will solve it. To really improve, the candidate needs to say what the different points of view are, and explain what she means by, 'they went too far from what our country can provide.' **Level 2: 6 marks.**

Appendix A – Trial question paper and mark scheme

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

0457/03

Paper 3

TRIAL PAPER

1 hour

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

You may use a pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

This question paper has **four** questions.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Any rough working should be done in this booklet.

NOTE: This trial paper is half the length of the real question paper for Global Perspectives. It is designed to give students practice in answering these types of questions.

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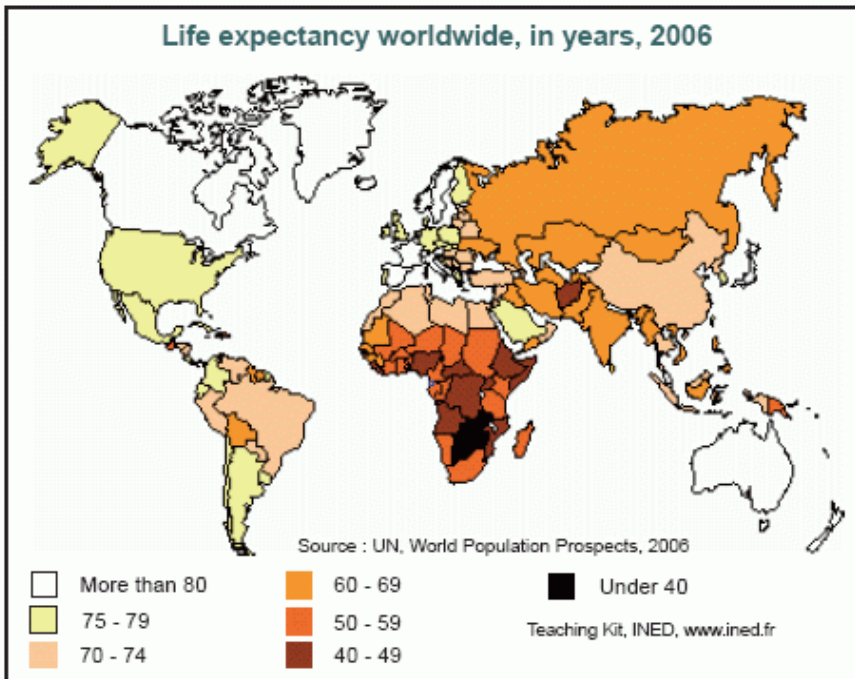
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Read the scenario and sources below, and then answer all questions 1 to 4.

Scenario

You work for the Ministry of Health and your job is to persuade and help people to improve their health conditions so that they live longer. There is growing worldwide concern about the effects of obesity on peoples' health because being too overweight can lead to other diseases and an early death.

Source 1



http://www.ined.fr/en/everything_about_population/teaching_kits/world_population/world_length_life/

Source 2

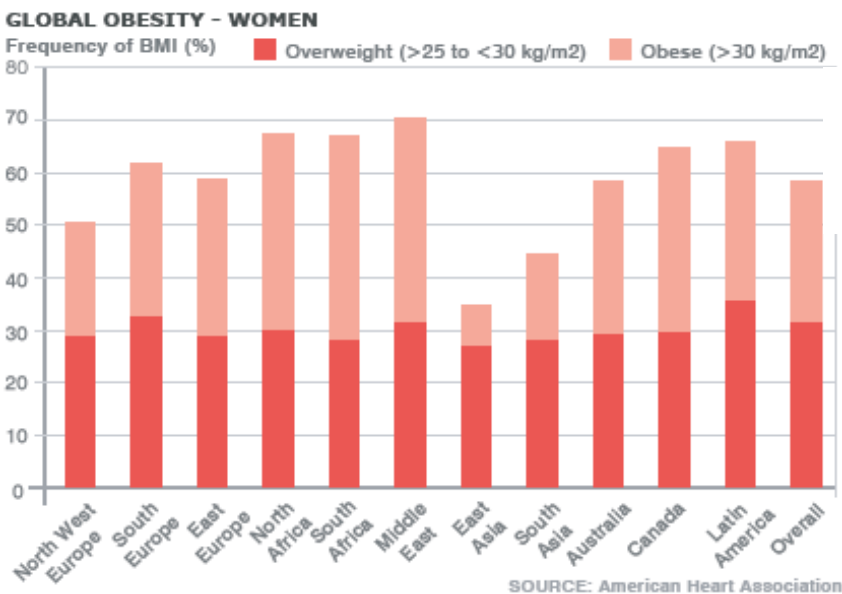
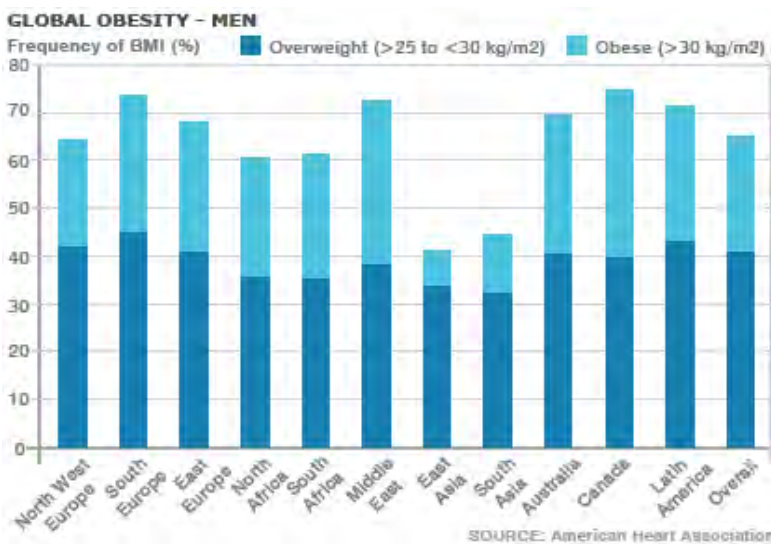
OBESITY: WHAT PEOPLE BLAME FOR THE PROBLEM

In a recent study 168,000 men and 168,000 women were evaluated by a doctor on a single day. The United States of America was not included in the report. They blamed the following for obesity problems:

- Food – 40% surveyed
- Lack of exercise - 18% surveyed
- Individual - 13% surveyed
- Genetics - 11% surveyed

Few people in the survey blamed their government for rising levels of obesity: the largest number of respondents blamed the food that was now available. Health specialist Dr Z said, 'We must encourage people to eat a healthy diet. But people will find it difficult to change because junk food is seen as normal. It is part of culture. Also, companies use advertising and promotions to encourage us to buy this junk food.'

A Body Mass Index (BMI) over 25 is deemed overweight and greater than 30 is obese.



Source 3**Childhood obesity on the rise**

World Health Organisations (WHO) latest projections indicate that globally in 2005:

- approximately 1.6 billion adults (age 15+) were overweight;
- at least 400 million adults were obese.

WHO further projects that by 2015, approximately 2.3 billion adults will be overweight and more than 700 million will be obese. Their life expectancy will be very much reduced.

Childhood obesity is one of the most serious public health challenges of the 21st century. The problem is global and is steadily affecting many low- and middle-income countries, particularly in urban settings. In 2007, an estimated 22 million children under the age of 5 years were overweight throughout the world. More than 75% of overweight and obese children live in low- and middle-income countries.

<http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/childhood/en/>

Source 4

Dear Health Minister

I am writing to express my concern about the growing number of people I am seeing in my local area who are extremely overweight and in many cases obese. It is not just adults, but many children too. My friend who is a doctor tells me they are coming to his surgery with problems like diabetes, shortness of breath and in some cases heart problems and this all seems to be related to their weight. Children as young as seven are unable to run around in the playground at school without having to stop for a breath every few minutes. I am hearing stories of poor diets of fast food and sweet, soft drinks. The lack of sport activities in schools probably does no good as well. As for the adults, many of them who are obese do not seem to have a healthy diet and are certainly not doing enough exercise. I would think that a lot of my colleagues in other parts of the country are seeing a similar picture. I believe you should make this a priority for the country's health. The future of our nation depends on it.

Yours faithfully

Councillor B

Question 1

Study source one

- a) Which part of the world has the lowest life expectancy? [1]

.....

- b) Which parts of the world have the highest life expectancy? [2]

.....

Study source 2

- c) Which part of the world has the most overweight and obese women? [1]

.....

- d) Which part of the world has the fewest overweight and obese men? [1]

.....

- e) Why do people think that they are overweight? Give two reasons. [2]

.....

.....

.....

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Study source 4

- f) Give three problems which can be caused by being overweight or obese. [3]

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Question 2

a) In Source 2 Health specialist Dr Z predicts that, 'people will find it difficult to change (their diets) because junk food is seen as normal. Also, companies use advertising and promotions to encourage us to buy this junk food.'

i) How likely is it that people will find it difficult to change their diets?
Explain your answer. [2]

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ii) Does Dr Z give a strong explanation of why people might find it difficult to change their diets? [3]

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b) Study Source 3

i) Identify two facts in source 3. [2]

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ii) Identify one opinion in source 3. [1]

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iii) Identify one prediction in source 3. [1]

Question 3

As Minister for Health what further information would you find useful to help you reduce the numbers of obese people in your country?

Example

What I need to know: I need to know how many trained dieticians we have.

Where I will find this information: Government records of health workers

How this information will help me make a decision: If there are not very many trained dieticians to help people improve their diets, then training more dieticians may help.

1.

What I need to know[1]

Where I will find this information[1]

How this information will help me make a decision

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.....[3].

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2.

What I need to know[1]

Where I will find this information[1]

How this information will help me make a decision

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*For
Examiner's
Use*

Mark Scheme Sample IGCSE Paper 3

Question 1

Study source 1

- a) **Which part of the world has the lowest life expectancy?** [1]
Sub-Saharan Africa / the southern part of Africa.
Accept Africa.
- b) **Which parts of the world have the highest life expectancy?** [2]
Canada, Australia, Europe, North America.
Any two.
2x1

Study source 2

- c) **Which part of the world has the most overweight and obese women?** [1]
The Middle East.
- d) **Which part of the world has the fewest overweight and obese men?** [1]
East Asia.
Accept Asia.
- e) **Why do people think that they are overweight? Give two reasons.** [2]
Food / lack of exercise / individual reasons / genetics
2x1

Study source 4

- f) **Give three problems which can be caused by being overweight or obese.** [3]
diabetes
shortness of breath
heart problems
difficulty running around the playground
3x1

Question 2

a) In Source 2 Health specialist Dr Z predicts that, 'people will find it difficult to change (their diets) because junk food is seen as normal. Also, companies use advertising and promotions to encourage us to buy this junk food.'

i) How likely is it that people will find it difficult to change their diets? Explain your answer. [2]

1 mark: an answer supported by quotation from the text
(e.g. People will find it hard to change their diets because junk food is seen as normal)

2 marks: an answer supported by an explanation.
(e.g. It is very likely that people will find it hard to change their diets because burgers and chocolate are nicer than healthy food / because of peer pressure to eat burgers not vegetables / because people get used to certain kinds of food / because it would take a lot of willpower to ignore the advertising for junk food)

ii) Does Dr Z give a strong explanation of why people might find it difficult to change their diets? [3]

1 mark – basic attempt / comment on Dr Z's explanation supported by stock, pre-prepared comment or quotation from the text.
(e.g. He's being subjective because he gives no examples to specify why people will find it hard)

2 marks – reasonable attempt to evaluate Dr Z's explanation.
(e.g. He gives a strong explanation because it's true and the media and culture are very important factors in our lives)

3 marks – strong evaluation of Dr Z's explanation, considering other possible causes / effect of normalcy and advertising on our eating habits.
(e.g. It's quite a strong explanation because advertising does affect our choice of food, but it leaves out other reasons why people will find it hard, such as habit).

b) Study Source 3

i) Identify two facts in source 3. [2]

In 2005 approximately 1.6 billion adults (age 15+) were overweight;

In 2005 at least 400 million adults were obese.

In 2007, an estimated 22 million children under the age of 5 years were overweight throughout the world.

More than 75% of overweight and obese children live in low- and middle-income countries.

The problem is global and is steadily affecting many low- and middle-income countries, particularly in urban settings.

2x1 mark

ii) **Identify one opinion in source 3.** [1]
Childhood obesity is one of the most serious public health challenges of the 21st century.
1x1 mark

iii) **Identify one prediction in source 3.** [1]
WHO further projects that by 2015, approximately 2.3 billion adults will be overweight and / more than 700 million will be obese. / Their life expectancy will be very much reduced.
1x1 mark

c) **In Source 4 Councillor B argues that the Health Minister ‘should make this (fight against obesity) a priority for the country’s health. The future of our nation depends on it.’ How convincing is Councillor B’s argument?** [6]

Mark according to levels of response
Level 0: no creditworthy material.

Level 1: (1 – 2 marks) Basic Response.
EITHER simple opinion followed by paraphrase of or (dis)agreement with the text OR an undeveloped point which hints at an evaluative point OR stock, pre-learned phrases which are not well applied to this particular argument.

Level 2: (3 - 4 marks) Reasonable Response
EITHER justified agreement or disagreement with the argument OR some evaluative comment relating to the quality of this particular argument which might offer some support to a conclusion about how convincing it is.

Level 3: (5 - 6 marks) Strong Response
A structured response which uses evaluation of the quality of this particular argument to support a conclusion about how convincing it is.

Indicative content.

Note – candidates do NOT need to make all of the following points to gain a high mark.

The councillor provides some plausible stories of people eating poor diets and being overweight and unfit. However, the councillor is just passing on stories, ‘I am hearing stories’ and ‘I would think’ – this is anecdotal evidence which is not based on reliable evidence so it is not very convincing because there might be other, contradictory stories. Her doctor friend is probably a fairly reliable source, but we can’t be sure this doctor sees typical patients. The councillor gives no reason to believe that obesity should be ‘a priority’ – there may be other health problems which are more serious. The councillor also gives no reason to believe that the ‘future of our nation depends on it.’ This is exaggeration, and therefore not very convincing. So overall, her argument is only a little bit convincing.

Other points that candidates might make:

The councillor refers to children which is very convincing because it is particularly worrying if children are overweight and unable to develop into healthy adults. This will affect the future of the nation IF many children have such problems, BUT the councillor

has exaggerated the seriousness of this possible consequence – the ‘future of our nation depends on it’ is a very strong claim.

The councillor is speaking at a local level, referring to what they are seeing in their local area. They expect that colleagues in other parts of the country are seeing similar things, but don’t know this. So they are not convincing us that, on the basis of this local knowledge and an expectation, we should make obesity a national priority.

Question 3

As Minister for Health what further information would you find useful to help you reduce the numbers of obese people in your country? [10]

Indicative content

Why people are overeating / underexercising: I could find this out using surveys or research from the health department. This will help me to reduce the numbers of obese people, because putting a problem right depends on identifying the causes of the problem.

How many people are obese: I could find this out using health department statistics. This would help me because I would know the size of the problem and therefore how much money might be needed to solve the problem.

How much junk food is advertised: I could find this out by analysing TV / magazine ads or by talking to market researchers. This would help me because banning ads won’t help if not much junk food is advertised.

Where people do their shopping: I could find this out using surveys or observation. This would help me because the type of shop people use might influence the sorts of food they buy.

Accept other relevant answers.

1 mark for each area of research.

1 mark for explaining how to find the information (this needs to go beyond stock answers which could apply to any area of information, such as, ‘look on the internet,’ ‘surveys’ etc.)

1 – 3 marks for explaining how this information will help you to make the decision (for each area)

1 mark – basic statement of relevance (or which hints at relevance)

2 marks – explanation of how this information would help make a decision

3 marks – considered explanation of how this information might be helpful, which considers ‘what if’ scenarios (if this, then that...)

Note: ‘what if’ scenarios are not sufficient for three marks if the explanation is not relevant to the decision.

Question 4

In your role as Health Minister, you have decided to make health and fitness programmes compulsory for all people. Write a short speech which should:

- explain why you have reached the decision that you made
- show that you have considered different points of view
- explain why you disagreed with some of these points of view

[15]

Mark according to levels of response

Level 0: no creditworthy material.

Level 1: (1 – 5 marks) Basic Response

May be undeveloped and / or inconclusive. Tends to use statement and exaggeration rather than reasoning, and there is very little support for a conclusion / opinion if given. Mentions alternative perspectives only vaguely or in a confused way. May simply repeat much of the stimulus material without adaptation.

Level 2: (6 - 10 marks) Reasonable Response

Provides reasoning which gives some logical support to the clearly stated conclusion / opinion. There may be some exaggeration occasionally. Attempts to consider alternative opinions (although these may not be fully relevant) and explain why the candidate did not accept them (although this may be a simple disagreement or only a partial answer).

Level 3: (11 - 15 marks) Strong Response

Clear and structured. Provides reasoning which gives strong logical support to the candidate's conclusion / opinion. Considers relevant alternative points of view and explains why the candidate did not accept them in a way which really answers the points raised.

